



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KNUDSON ET AL. Examiner: UNKNOWN
Serial No.: 10/629,490 Group Art Unit: 3738
Filed: JULY 29, 2003 Docket: 13033.1USC8
Confirmation No.: 7446
Title: STIFF SNORING IMPLANT

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 14, 2004.

By: Carla J. Mauch
Name: Carla J. Mauch

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:

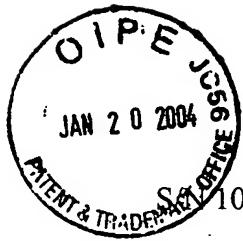
We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 2 Reference(s)
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: Karen A. Fitzsimmons
Name: Karen A. Fitzsimmons
Reg. No.: 50,470
KFitzsimmons/cjm



SAR 10/629,490

PATENT

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked

as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

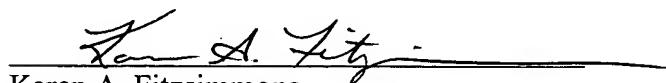
Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

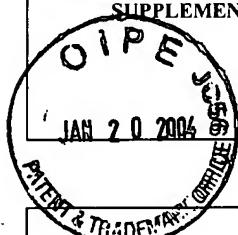


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(612) 332-5300

Date: Jan. 14, 2004


Karen A. Fitzsimmons
Reg. No. 50,470
KAF:cjm

FORM 1449* SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 13033.1USC8 Application Number: 10/629,490
Applicant: KNUDSON ET AL.	
Filing Date: JULY 29, 2003 Group Art Unit: 3738	



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	44 12 190 A1	10/12/1995	DE			X	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Blumen et al., Radiofrequency Ablation for the Treatment of Mild to Moderate Obstructive Sleep Apnea, November, 2002; pages 2086-2092.

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.